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EXAMINER
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WINDER, PATRICE L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2145

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/624,115

Applicant(s)

BORMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Patrice Winder

Art Unit

2145

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 and 49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44, 49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-4, 10,12-14, 16-18, 21, 23-25, 30, 32, 40, 42 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipate by Huang et al., USPN 6,571,245 B2 (hereafter referred to as Huang).

3. Regarding claim 1, Huang taught a method of delivering links for subsequent display by an application program running on a user's computer, each link being associated with a location of information on a computer or a computer network (column 6, lines 13-25), the method comprising:

assembling a plurality of links for transfer to an application-specific location (column 13, lines 6-15);

storing the plurality of links in the application-specific location to automatically integrate the plurality of links into at least one menu of the application program (column 13, lines 6-15) wherein the links are presented to the application program rather than being immediately presented to a user (column 13, lines 3-6).

4. Regarding dependent claim 2, Huang taught the application program is a browser (column 12, lines 43-52).

5. Regarding dependent claim 3, Huang taught the menu is accessed using a toolbar (column 12, lines 43-52).
6. Regarding dependent claim 4, Huang taught the toolbar is a browser toolbar (column 12, lines 43-52).
7. Regarding dependent claim 10, Huang taught the step of assembling a plurality of links comprises: retrieving links from at least one link server accessible via a computer network (column 13, lines 6-10).
8. Regarding dependent claim 12, Huang taught the step of storing comprises: appending the plurality of links to an existing file on the user's computer (synchronizing, column 13, lines 9-10).
9. Regarding dependent claim 13, Huang taught the step of storing comprises: storing a directory structure on the user's computer, the directory structure including at least one directory and a plurality of files with each file corresponding to one of the plurality of links (column 12, lines 39-42; column 18, lines 38-43).
10. Regarding dependent claim 14, Huang taught all of the links are related to a single domain (column 18, lines 38-43).
11. Regarding dependent claim 16, Huang taught the step of storing is performed during an installation procedure of a requested application program (column 7, lines 33-41; column 13, lines 3-9).
12. Regarding dependent claim 17, Huang taught the step of assembling is performed during an installation procedure of a requested application program (column 7, lines 33-41; column 13, lines 3-9).

13. Regarding claim 18, Huang taught a method for delivering links associated with locations of information on a computer network from a server on the computer network to a browser running on a user's computer system (column 6, lines 13-25), the method comprising:

receiving a request from the browser to transfer information from the server for display by the browser (column 13, lines 6-9);

transferring a plurality of links from the server to a browser-specific location on the user's computer system to integrate the plurality of links into at least one menu or toolbar of the browser (column 13, lines 6-15) wherein the links are delivered to the application program rather than immediately presented to a user(column 13, lines 3-6).

14. Regarding dependent claim 21, Huang taught the user's computer system comprises a local area network (column 4, lines 42-44).

15. Regarding dependent claim 23, Huang taught a method further comprising requesting permission from the user's computer system and performing the step of transferring only if permission is granted (column 7, lines 13-32, 51-56).

16. Regarding dependent claim 24, Huang requesting permission comprises: prompting a user for permission to transfer the plurality of links (login page for access to bookmark application, column 7, lines 13-32, 51-56).

17. Regarding dependent claim 25, Huang taught the step of transferring is performed without informing the user (column 13, lines 4-9).

18. Regarding dependent claim 30, Huang taught transferring the plurality of links to a single file on the user's computer system (column 13, lines 1-2).

19. Regarding dependent claim 32, Huang taught transferring at least one directory with a plurality of files, each file corresponding to one of the plurality of links (column 18, lines 38-43).

20. Claim 40 is rejected on the same rationale as previously rejected claim 1.

21. Regarding claim 42, Huang taught a system for providing links to an application program running on a computer connected to a network (abstract), the system comprising:

a file server connected to the network for receiving requests from the application program to transfer files to be displayed by the application program, the file server identifying the application program and determining a storage location for links used by the application program (column 13, lines 3-9);

a link server in communication with the file server over the network, the link server generating at least one list of links (column 13, lines 6-9) and periodically transferring the at least one list to the file server (column 12, lines 10-19) wherein at least one of the list of links are delivered to the application program rather than being presented immediately presented to a user (column 13, lines 3-6);

wherein the file server transfers the at least one list of links to the storage location for links used by the application program for subsequent use in retrieving information from the network (column 13, lines 6-15).

22. Regarding claim 49, Huang taught a method of delivering links for subsequent display by an application program running on a user's computer, each link being

associated with a location of information on a computer or a computer network  
(abstract), the method comprising:

assembling a plurality of links for transfer to an application-specific location  
(column 6, lines 6-9), the plurality of links being arranged in a hierarchical list having  
links grouped by subject categories (column 18, lines 38-43); and

storing the plurality of links in the application-specific location to automatically  
integrate the plurality of links into at least one menu of the application program (column  
13, lines 6-15).

23. Claims 33-35 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by  
Mullen-Schultz, USPN 6,393,462 B1 (hereafter referred to as Mullen-Schultz).

24. Regarding claim 33, Mullen-Schultz taught a method for providing links to  
browser program running on a computer connected to a network (abstract), the method  
comprising:

receiving a request from the browser program to transfer a file representing a  
home page for display in the browser program (column 8, lines 57-67);

determining a storage location on the computer for links used by the browser  
program (column 9, lines 45-49);

requesting permission to modify links used by the browser program (column 9,  
lines 13-27);

generating a list of links to be transferred to the computer (column 7, lines 39-45;  
column 8, lines 1-16); and transferring the list of links to the storage location on the

computer for subsequent use by the browser in retrieving information from the network (column 9, lines 45-49).

25. Regarding dependent claim 34, Mullen-Schultz taught the step of generating a list of links (column 2, lines 14-19) is performed prior to the step of receiving a request from the browser to establish a plurality of predetermined lists of links for subsequent transfers (column 3, lines 35-49).

26. Regarding dependent claim 35, Mullen-Schultz taught the step of generating a list of links comprises obtaining links from a link server connected to the network (column 8, lines 17-21).

27. Claim 41 is rejected on the same rationale as previously rejected claim 33.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

28. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

29. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was



not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

30. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mullen-Schultz in view of Cordell, USPN 6,031,989 (hereafter referred to as Cordell).

31. Regarding dependent claim 5, Huang taught the toolbar is a browser toolbar (column 12, lines 43-52). Huang does not specifically teach an operating system toolbar. However, Cordell taught the browser integrated in the operating system (column 5, lines 41-43). Thus, the browser toolbar is integrated in the operating system toolbar. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Cordell's operating system toolbar in the Huang system for downloading bookmark information would have improved flexibility. The motivation would have been to take advantage of the integration of operating system interfaces with browsers.

32. Claims 6-7, 22 and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang in view of Reese, USPN 6,374,237 B1 (hereafter referred to as Reese).

33. Regarding dependent claim 6, Huang does not specifically teach the step of assembling the plurality of links comprises: determining a profile of the user based on previously collected user information. However, Reese taught teach the step of assembling the plurality of links comprises: determining a profile of the user based on previously collected user information (column 8, lines 26-33).

34. Regarding dependent claim 7, Reese taught further comprising: assembling the plurality of links based on the profile (column 7, lines 47-52).

35. Regarding dependent claim 22, Huang does not specifically teach prompting the user to indicate type of links. However, Reese taught prompting a user to indicate which links or type of links are desired (column 4, lines 6-9, 35-41); and generating a list of links based on the indicated links or type of links prior to transferring the links to the user's computer system (column 4, lines 13-15).

36. Regarding dependent claim 26, Huang does not specifically teach dynamically constructing a list of links after receiving the request from the browser. However, Reese taught dynamically constructing a list of links after receiving the request from the browser (column 7, lines 47-52).

37. Regarding dependent claim 27, Reese taught the step of dynamically constructing a list of links comprises dynamically constructing a list of links based on a user profile (column 7, lines 47-52).

38. Regarding dependent claim 28, Reese taught the step of dynamically constructing a list of links comprises obtaining links from another server on the computer network (column 7, lines 25-39).

39. Regarding the claims above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Reese's profiling and dynamic lists in Huang's system for downloading bookmark information would have expanded the information available for downloading. The motivation would have been to provide relevant information consistent with the user's interests.

40. Claims 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang and Reese as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Meade, II, USPN 6,405,214 B1 (hereafter referred to as Meade).

41. Regarding dependent claim 8, Huang does not specifically teach determining a profile comprises: determining the profile based on information stored on the user's computer. However, Meade taught determining a profile comprises: determining the profile based on information stored on the user's computer (column 4, lines 55-63, column 5, lines 20-27).

42. Regarding dependent claim 9, Huang does not specifically teach determining a profile comprises: determining a profile based on cookies stored on the user's computer. However, Meade determining a profile comprises: determining a profile based on cookies stored on the user's computer (column 4, lines 55-63, column 5, lines 20-27).

43. Regarding the claims above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Meade's profile in the Huang-Reese system for downloading bookmark information would have customized the information to the user. The motivation would have been to further tailor the information provided to the user.

44. Claims 11 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang in view of Mullen-Schultz.

45. Regarding dependent claim 11, Huang does not specifically teach a picture of graphic associated with at least one link. However, Mullen-Schultz taught the step of

assembling a plurality of links comprises: assembling at least one picture or graphic associated with at least one link (column 5, line 64 – column 6, line 3).

46. Regarding dependent claim 29, Huang does not specifically modifying the list prior to transferring the links to the user's computer. However, Mullen-Schultz taught accessing a list of links previously stored on the user's computer system (accessing list of bookmarks associated with web browser, column 7, lines 39-45); and modifying the list prior to transferring the links to the user's computer system (identifying personalized bookmark information, column 8, lines 51-54, column 9, lines 29-33).

47. Regarding the claims above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Mullen-Schultz's bookmark management in Huang's system for downloading bookmarks would have improved system integrity. The motivation would have been to better provide more personalized bookmark information.

48. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang in view of Blumer et al., US 6,189,019 B1 (hereafter referred to as Blumer).

49. Regarding dependent claim 31, Huang does not specifically teach the step of transferring comprises transferring each link to a separate file on the user's computer system. However, Blumer taught transferring each link to a separate file on the user's computer system (outline view of unrelated documents, column 12, lines 64 – column 13, line 24). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Blumer's transferring directories and files in the Huang system for downloading bookmark information would improved system

effectiveness. The motivation would have been to better management bookmark information to achieve seamless integration with the user's browser.

50. Claim 15, 19-20 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang in view of Meade.

51. Regarding dependent claim 15, Huang does not specifically teach recording billing information related to storing the plurality of links on the user's computer. However, Meade taught recording billing information related to storing the plurality of links on the user's computer (column 2, lines 31-44).

52. Regarding dependent claim 19, Huang does not specifically teach storing accounting information on the server related to the number and types of links transferred to the user's computer. However, Meade taught storing accounting information on the server related to number and type of links transferred to the user's computer system (column 2, lines 31-44, column 4, lines 60-64).

53. Regarding dependent claim 20, Meade taught further comprising: transferring the accounting information to a second server on the computer network (column 4, line 64 – column 5, line 3).

Regarding the claims above, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Meade's recording billing information in the Huang system for downloading bookmarks would have improved system effectiveness. The motivation would have been to potentially provide incentives to the user requesting bookmark information.

54. Regarding claim 44, Huang taught a method for providing links to an application program running on a user's computer connected to a computer network (abstract), the method comprising:

receiving a request from the application program to transfer a file representing a home page for display in the application program (column 6, lines 13-25);

transferring instructions to the user's computer for subsequent use in delivering links to the user's computer, the instructions selected based at least in part on the application program (column 7, lines 32-41);

determining a storage location on the user's computer for links based at least in part on the application program (column 12, lines );

generating a list of links to be transferred to the user's computer (column 13, lines 6-9);

transferring the list of links to the storage location on the user's computer for subsequent use by the application program in retrieving information from the network (column 13, lines 6-15) wherein the list of links are delivered to the application program rather than being immediately presented to a user (column 13, lines 3-6). Huang does not specifically teach storing accounting information associated with type and number of links transferred to the user's computer. However, Meade taught storing accounting information associated with type and number of links transferred to the user's computer (column 2, lines 31-44, column 4, lines 60-64). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Meade's recording billing information in the Huang system for downloading bookmarks would

have improved system effectiveness. The motivation would have been to potentially provide incentives to the user requesting bookmark information.

55. Claims 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mullen-Schultz in view of Blumer and further in view of Adams et al., USPN 6,334,145 B1 (hereafter referred to as Adams).

56. Regarding dependent claim 36, Mullen-Schultz does not specifically teach the step of generating a list of links comprises creating a hierarchical list having links grouped by subject categories. However, Blumer taught generating a list of links comprises creating a hierarchical list having links (column 12, lines 64 – column 13, line 24). However, Adams taught links grouped by subject categories (column 11, lines 10-15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Blumer's transferring directories and files in the Mullen-Schultz system for downloading bookmark information would improved system effectiveness. The motivation would have been to better management bookmark information to achieve seamless integration with the user's browser. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Adam's grouping by subject categories in the Mullen-Schultz system for downloading bookmark information would have improved system effectiveness. The motivation would have been further refine the relationship between the indexed links.

57. Regarding dependent claim 37, Blumer taught the step of transferring the list of links comprises transferring the hierarchical list to a single file on the computer (column 12, lines 64 – column 13, line 24).

58. Regarding dependent claim 38, Blumer taught the hierarchical list comprises a directory structure having link files within at least one directory and wherein transferring the list of links comprises transferring the directory structure to the storage location on the computer for subsequent use by the browser in retrieving information from the network (column 12, lines 64 – column 13, line 24).

59. Claim 39 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mullen-Schultz in view of Meade.

60. Regarding dependent claim 39, Mullen-Schultz does not specifically teach forwarding billing information associated with the list of links transferred to the computer to a server on the network. However, Meade taught forwarding billing information associated with the list of links transferred to the computer to a server on the network (column 2, lines 31-44, column 4, lines 60-64). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Meade's recording billing information in the Mullen-Schultz system for downloading bookmarks would have improved system effectiveness. The motivation would have been to potentially provide incentives to the user requesting bookmark information.

61. Claims 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang in view of Khan et al, USPN 6,460,038 B1 (hereafter referred to as Khan).

62. Regarding dependent claim 43, Huang does not specifically teach an accounting server. However, Meade taught an accounting server in communication with the file server, the accounting server collecting information relative to numbers and types of links transferred from the file server to the computer or from the link server to the file



server (column 2, lines 31-44, column 4, lines 60-64). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that incorporating Meade's recording billing information in the Huang system for downloading bookmark information would have improved system effectiveness. The motivation would have been to potentially provide incentives to the user requesting bookmark information.

### ***Response to Arguments***

63. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-32, 40-44 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

64. Applicant's arguments filed March 9, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

65. Applicant argues – "Mullen-Schultz does not state that a list of links is generated. Instead, in Mullen-Schultz a web page with embedded links is utilized. Because Mullen-Schultz utilizes such a web page, that reference includes a translation mechanism designed to translate the bookmark information embedded in the web page from the primary computer."

a. Applicant forgets that earlier in column 7, lines 46-51, Mullen-Schultz taught using bookmark transfer mechanism 123 to transfer "bookmark information". In Mullen-Schultz "bookmark information" is defined to be URLs and Internet addresses, see column 7, lines 39-45. Thus, when the "bookmark information" is extracted for transfer to alternate computer 314, links, i.e. bookmark information, is generated.

66. Applicant argues – “The stated motivation for combining these reference is stated to be ‘better bookmark management.’ However, the Examiner has used the present invention in hindsight to provide this motivation. “

b. In response to applicant's argument that the examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

c. Mullen-Schultz, clearly established in column 2, lines 7-13, that “bookmarks” are any placeholders “capable of automatically retrieving URLs and directing a web browser to the desired site. In Blumer’s case for example, the web documents are represented by icons and addressed that can be accessed through a browser interface, i.e. bookmarks (column 11, lines 34-47). And one advantage Blumer expects to provide is better “navigation” through network links, see column 9, lines 1-5.

### ***Conclusion***

67. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP


§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

68. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patrice Winder whose telephone number is 571-272-3935. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 am-7:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on 571-272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Patrice Winder  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2145

May 26, 2006